

Early Childhood News



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Welcome to Professional Development (PD) Connections!

In May 2006, the Professional Development Institute's Professional Development Infrastructure (PDIC) Task Group identified the need to regularly share information with those providing professional development services in our state and provide a support structure to increase skills and knowledge of PD Providers and Coordinators. To meet this need, the Outreach & Support Task Group, which is charged with disseminating information about early childhood professional development formed a group called Professional Development Connections or *PD Connections*.

PD Connections is a subcommittee of Institute's Outreach & Support Task Group. It consists of a statewide team and three regional groups (East, Central, and West) which are coordinated by Regional Leads. PD Providers, Coordinators, faculty, administrators, TA providers and more gather from across the state on a regular basis to address current issues and topics that are relevant to early childhood professional development, develop strategies to inform working with individuals and programs on professional development goals in their counties, and provide input to the PD Connections Regional Leads to inform the work of the Outreach & Support Task Group.

In addition, a statewide meeting is held annually to share an overview of PD efforts occurring at the state level, to provide an opportunity for participants to actively engage in opportunities to build skills and increase their understanding of the PD system, to share resources, and provide input to inform the work of the Institute.

Some of the past topics and events covered at *PD Connections* events include:

- Working Through Resistance
- Pre-Conference Information Sessions at the Smart Start Conference
- T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Scholarships & Health Insurance
- Child Care WAGE\$® Salary Supplement
- NC Division of Child Development Workforce Unit Update
- Community College placement testing issues
- Early Educator Certification
- Early Childhood Professional Development Plans & Strategies

All individuals supporting the attainment of professional development (credit- and continuing education) are welcome to attend. Please contact a Regional Lead or email Debra Torrence at ecpdinstitute@gmail.com for more information.

PD Connections Regional Leads

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